

National Commission for Stratigraphy Belgium

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4.1.2 Bellevaux Formation - BEL (old: Dvb)

Lower Paleozoic

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Author: after Geukens, 1999.

Description: Alternation of greenish and purple slate and shale; greenish shale and white quartzite.

Stratotype: Amblève valley east of the city of Stavelot and in the Salm valley north of RochelINVAL.

Area: In two anticlinal structures (Grand-Halleux and Ligneuville) in the southern part of the Stavelot Massif.

Thickness: 150 m.

Age: The only fossils present are the trace fossils *Oldhamia antiqua* and *O. radiata*. Because the genus *Oldhamia* is present in the Lower and Middle Cambrian only and not below the new GSSP of the Cambrian-Precambrian boundary (Crimes, 1992), an Early Cambrian age was proposed by Verniers and De Vos (1995). According to new observations by A. Seilacher (pers. comm., 1998) *Oldhamia* is more restricted in time and only present in the Tommotian or Nemakitian-Daldynian (early Early Cambrian), which would be the age of the formation. Acritarchs are recorded in the uppermost part of the formation, above the *Oldhamia* occurrences. They are assigned to the Zone 0 (Vanguetaine, 1974) indicating a mid or late Early Cambrian to early Mid Cambrian age (Vanguetaine, 1974, 1992).

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